

Northwestern
SINCE 1879
Sterling

August, 1986

The Lightning Bolt

NORTHWESTERN STEEL AND WIRE COMPANY · STERLING, ILLINOIS 61081

“Build Illinois” Money Comes Through

State Grants NSW \$2 Million Loan

Northwestern Steel and Wire Company will receive a \$2 million loan from the state's “Build Illinois” program to help with a \$4 million renovation of its Wire Products Division.

Illinois Governor James R. Thompson announced the loan at a Republican Party fundraiser in Rockford.

“This ‘Build Illinois’ loan, combined with private financing, will enable Northwestern Steel and Wire to retain 505 jobs in this northern Illinois area,” Thompson said. “Northwestern Steel and Wire has been through some tough times in the production of steel, as has the entire steel industry.”

The \$2 million loan comes from the large business development program run by the state Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. The program helps large companies locate in Illinois or existing businesses to expand or undertake retention projects.

The money will be used toward the installation of a new cleaning house, where oxides from the steel rods are removed after they come out of the hot mill. Once the rods are cleaned, they then can be refined into products such as wire.

The installation of the cleaning house is part of a \$4 million renovation project in the Wire Products Division. The renovation will include the cleaning house, a new drawing machine, updating and installation of new equipment on the galvanizing line, and updating and renovating the nailing furnaces.

“We will put the money to good use,” NSW President **Robert Wilthew** said. “It will allow us to improve our Wire Products Division.

“As you know,” Wilthew said, “Northwestern Steel and Wire had



Northwestern Steel and Wire Company's \$4 million renovation project in the Wire Products Division will be made possible, in part, by a \$2 million “Build Illinois” loan. One of the major projects to be undertaken by Northwestern with this money will be the installation of a new cleaning house. Shown is the area in the old 10-Inch Mill where the new cleaning house will be established.

been in a four-year slump, but we've just finished our fiscal year, we made money this year, and this loan comes at a great time for us. Now we'll be able to turn the corner and go on to bigger and better things for Northwestern Steel and Wire, our employees, shareholders and the community.”

Northwestern Steel and Wire Company, along with the city's Industrial Development Commission, had worked laboriously the past six months in hopes of luring the much needed funds from the state.

Peter Dillon, NSW Board Chairman said, “This was a joint effort by the Company and the City of Sterling. Obviously, we're very pleased. This is part of a program that will allow us to im-

prove our cleaning process, as well as improve the quality of the steel rods.”

The loan will allow NSW to improve its position in the wire products market across the country, Wilthew noted. “We've all been working hard over the last six months to bring this thing to completion.”

With the announcement of the loan, both Wilthew and Dillon said the company would proceed with the installation of the cleaning house with all deliberate speed, targeting April as the completion date for the cleaning house. The company hopes to have the entire renovation project completed by June, 1987.

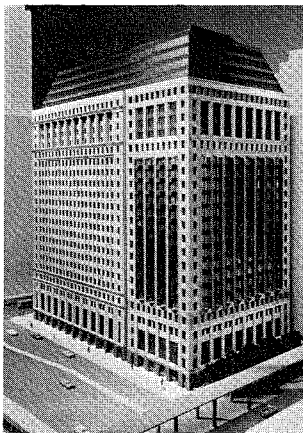
Material Service Corporation — A Concrete Choice

Material Service Corporation was founded in 1919 by three brothers — Henry, Sol, and Irving Crown. Their sand and gravel company owned no sources of raw material and only a single distribution point — a 50' x 100' lot on the north side of Chicago.

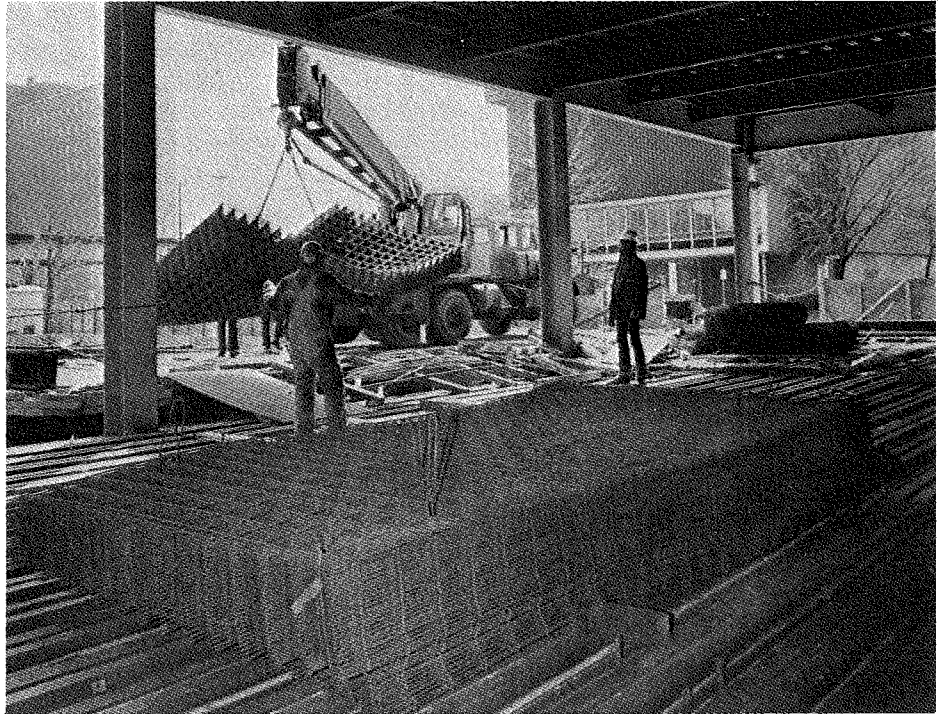
In 1949 Material Service entered into the business for which it is best known — ready-mixed concrete. Since its modest beginning, the company has grown to be the largest producer and supplier of concrete building materials in the Midwest. Material Service has plants and yards throughout Illinois, including ready-mixed concrete yards, sand and gravel pits, stone quarries, precast and prestressed concrete plants, a sizeable fleet of barges and towboats, and a large maintenance and fabrication shop.

The company is one of the largest distributors of welded wire fabric in the Midwest and supplies the standard 5' x 150' rolls of reinforcing mesh in various gauges, as well as custom mats in 5 to 8 ft. widths and in lengths from 12 to 20 ft.

Northwestern Steel and Wire Company is a major supplier of welded wire fabric to Material Service Corporation. According to **David Oberbillig**, Northwestern's Wire Products Sales Manager, the relationship between Material Service Corporation and Northwestern Steel and Wire is a very



Shown is Material Service Corporation's new headquarters at 222 North LaSalle Street in Chicago. The company has approximately 1,800 employees. Material Service Corporation is one of the largest distributors of welded wire fabric in the Midwest and buys much of it from Northwestern Steel and Wire Company.



Wire fabric mats such as these being placed at the University of Illinois Replacement Hospital are supplied to Material Service Corporation by Northwestern Steel and Wire Company. Northwestern supplies a major portion of Material Service Corporation's wire products needs.

good one.

"Material Service favors us because we provide them with a high quality product, priced fairly, and we provide them with good service. It is a good partnership," Oberbillig said.

"Material Service is located in Chicago, which is the heart of our marketplace. **John Asumendi** and **Mike Dunn**, inside salesmen, work closely with **Don Reilly**, Materials Manager for Material Service, and **Don Thompson**, Buyer."

Material Service has three operating units — Marblehead Lime Company, Freeman United Coal Mining Company and El Paso Sand Products Company. Marblehead is the largest manufacturer of lime in the United States, and Freeman United is among the largest coal producers. In addition to its lime business, Marblehead operates two brick manufacturing companies — Darlington Brick & Clay Products Company and Powell & Minnock Brick Works, Inc. El Paso Sand is the largest producer of building products in West Texas.

In 1960, Material Service merged with General Dynamics Corporation, a major defense contractor in the United

States with annual sales exceeding \$6 billion.

Material Service takes pride in the fact that it has literally helped to build Chicago. The Company has been involved in some of the most impressive concrete projects in the Chicago area...the highest strength field-placed concrete - 14,000 psi - at the Mercantile Exchange; the tallest reinforced concrete building - 76 stories - Water Tower Place; the widest concrete placement of a monolithic bridge span in Illinois - 72 feet wide - Eisenhower Circle Interchange; the heaviest concrete - 265 pcf - Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center; and the fastest continuous concrete pour - nearly 4,700 cubic yards in less than 11 hours - McDonald's Corporate Headquarters, Oak Brook. The company has also been involved in thousands of miles of paving in the Midwest - from the Chicago Loop's State Street Transit Mall to the Edens and Eisenhower Expressways.

Material Service Corporation has approximately 1,800 employees, approximately 300 of whom now work at the company's new offices in downtown Chicago.

Northwestern's Personnel Files

Craig DeWitt

Craig joins Northwestern Steel and Wire Company as a Transportation Clerk.

An accomplished basketball player, Craig led his Sterling High School team (1976) to the Super-sectional IHSA tournament. He went on to play for Eastern Illinois University, where he graduated with a degree in Zoology.



Craig and his wife, Peggy, make their home in Sterling with their son Lance, who is 10 months old.

Prior to coming to Northwestern, Craig worked in Sterling as Purchasing Manager for Products Unlimited and then as Administrative Manager of Prescott's TV and Appliance Stores.

Karen Galbreath

Karen becomes a Clerk/Typist in the Purchasing Department for Northwestern Steel.

Before coming to the Company, Karen worked with the Ward, Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson law firm for nearly six years as a secretary. Prior to that Karen worked at a law firm in Rockford.

Karen and her husband Joe live in Sterling with their daughter, Erin, 2. Joe works as Chief Pharmacist at the Walgreen Drug Store at Northland Mall.

She said her favorite hobby is sewing, while Joe busies himself with his hobby, a 1909 Case steam tractor.



Larry Hurd

Larry becomes a sales representative for Northwestern's Wire Products Division for the territory consisting of West Virginia and portions of Ohio.

He started with Northwestern in January of 1974 and was employed in the advertising department for slightly more than two years. He moved to the Wire Products Sales Division as an inside salesman in 1976 and remained in that position until becoming a territorial salesman in June of this year.

Larry and his wife Marti are both natives of Sterling and are the parents of two sons, Nathan, 9, and Andrew, 8. The Hurds are residing in Grove City, Ohio, a suburb of Columbus.

Larry is very active in his church. Before moving to Ohio, he worked in Youth Ministry at St. Mary's Church in Sterling. He taught a religion class to high school students in the church. Currently, the Hurds attend Our Lady Of Perpetual Help church in Grove City.

He said he enjoys gardening, cooking and music as his favorite hobbies.

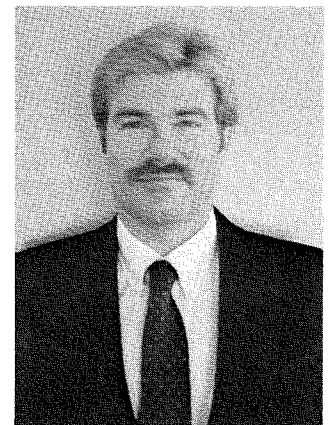
Todd Weinrich

Todd becomes a Hot Rolled Sales correspondent for Northwestern, taking the place of **Bill Stahr**, who is furthering his education.

Todd was recently employed as Regional Sales Coordinator for Penberthy Corp. in Prophetstown.

He is not new to Northwestern as he worked in various plants while going to Illinois State University. Todd graduated with a B.S. degree in Economics with a minor in Business.

Todd and his wife, Kristin, were recently married and live in Sterling with her son, Mathew, 12. He said he enjoys swimming and working as a part-time instructor of weight training at Westwood Sports Center.



Northwestern Receives Two Separate Employee Training Grants

It was recently announced by the Prairie State 2000 Authority that Northwestern Steel and Wire Company has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$39,961 for the purpose of training 50 maintenance supervisors in "Multi-crafting" skills.

The Company also received notice that it is the recipient of a training grant in the amount of \$33,320 from the Job Partnership Training Act for the purpose of training 28 employees in Statistical Process Control procedures.

The Prairie State 2000 Authority grant will enable the Northwestern maintenance supervisors to learn multi-crafting, which will allow employees who are presently welders, millwrights, pipefitters, or other maintenance skilled employees to be "cross-trained" in closely related skills.

Multi-crafting is part of the latest contractual agreement between Northwestern Steel and Wire Company and United Steelworkers of America Locals 63 and 3720.

The "cross-training" will allow maintenance employees to perform overlapping trade skills and thereby avoid costly downtime and increase maintenance personnel efficiency. The multi-crafting program will be an asset to Northwestern Steel and Wire Company and will increase the maintenance employee's "marketability" should the employee ever decide to leave Northwestern Steel and Wire Company.

The 50 maintenance supervisors will participate in multi-craft training at the Whiteside Area Vocational Center located near Sterling High School in Sterling, Illinois. The program is designed so that the supervisors will utilize Computer Assisted Instruction techniques, use videotapes, and the course materials are written on the basis of individualized instruction. In this manner, each supervisor can receive training and proceed at the supervisor's own pace of learning.

Company officials are very enthusiastic about the multi-craft program and the training of the 50 maintenance supervisors is the first step in making this program a reality.

The grant from the Job Partnership Training Act will be utilized as instruction in Statistical Process Control procedures, with classes to be held at Sauk Valley Community College.

The Statistical Process Control pro-

gram will take approximately one year to complete. At the completion of the program, Northwestern's employees will have had the opportunity to take courses in Statistics, Metrology, Advance Statistical Concepts, Production Team techniques, Quality Control, Industrial Blueprint Reading, Technical Mathematics, and Technical Reporting.

Statistical Process Control training directly addresses Northwestern Steel and Wire Company's needs for more of its employees to become knowledgeable in techniques and pro-

Lanny Munz Named LMPT/EIT Facilitator

Lanny Munz, former rate analyst in the Transportation Department, has been named as the Company's new Labor Management Participation Teams' and Employee Involvement Teams' Facilitator. Munz takes over following the retirement of **Wendell Davis**.

Munz will soon be leaving for Pittsburgh, PA, where he will undergo an extensive week-long LMPT Facilitator Training Course from Kirkwood Consulting.

The Facilitator works in conjunction with the various LMPT and EIT teams and as liaison with the steering committee. His duties are to assist in a neutral manner in the meetings held with the teams.

The Facilitator is also a resource person who assists in collecting data from other departments, when necessary.

Munz worked in the Transportation Department for 23½ years.



Lanny Munz is the new LMPT and EIT Facilitator/Coordinator for the Wire Products Division. Lanny takes over in this capacity following the retirement of Wendy Davis. Lanny will be leaving for Pittsburgh, PA soon for extensive facilitator training.

cedures that will enable them to analyze and correct quality problems utilizing the latest scientific techniques. Each phase of the manufacturing process can be minutely analyzed and "fine tuned" whenever a quality problem arises on the production line.

The emphasis on products being of a high quality has reached the point where some companies across the nation now require their suppliers to use Statistical Process Control techniques.

Best Retirement Wishes

Best wishes for a long and happy retirement are extended to the following employees who completed their years of service at Northwestern Steel and Wire Company as of August 1.

Juan G. Cantu, 14-Inch Mill Shipping, 31 years.

Philip Haws, Air Conditioning, 21 years.

Howard Miller, Caster Department, 31 years.

Leopoldo Rodriguez, Roll Thread, 21 years.

George Thomas, Plant 4 Shipping, 31 years.

John Todd, Deferred Vested, 11 years.

Elmer Dombrowski, West Plant Welding, 24 years.

Virgil (Jack) Henson, Caster Department, 31 years.

Frank Pannell, Mats, 31 years.

LaVone Shenefelt, General Millwright, 25 years.

Lev Timbs, Caster, 31 years.

John Trancoso, 24-Inch Conditioning, 31 years.

Kent Foreman, Electric Furnace, 35 years.

Robert Evans, Plant 1 Electrician, 23 years.

Ysidro Plata, Caster Department, 37 years.

Manuel Miniel, Plant 2 Crane Mechanics, 36 years.

Gleason Garrison, Nail Room, 32 years.

Francisco Vasquez, Caster Department, 37 years.

Wendell Davis, Private Payroll, Operations - Wire Division, 30 years.

Alvin Fitzpatrick, Plant 3 Mechanical, 31 years.

Seth Hill, Plant 2 Electrical, 32 years.

Joseph Miesczak, Plant 4 Rewind, 33 years.

Lumber Industry Helps Steel



A load of steel sits atop a flat car following an experimental loading. If Northwestern can find an economical way to load this steel, the Company may be able to sell more steel.

Northwestern Steel and Wire Company is looking West. New and attractive flat car rates to westbound destinations may open up markets previously inaccessible to the Company due to high shipping costs.

Indirectly it is the lumber industry that is opening up potential opportunities for Northwestern. Lumber is shipped eastward from the Northwest by flat rail car. The rail cars then return to the Northwest unloaded, or dead head.

Railroads are becoming more aggressive in hopes of utilizing this space on flat cars returning west. They are setting up rates much below the regular gondola rates now being charged, according to **Chuck Biermann**, North-

western's Vice President of Sales - Steel Division.

The gondola rates are such that shipment to the West Coast is not economically feasible. The flat car shipments would be possible if an economical loading procedure can be found. Flat cars have end walls but no side walls, which make loading difficult. The steel must be tightly secured to assure that the load stays on the car.

Northwestern is currently making a few trial loadings on flat cars to determine if an economical loading procedure can be found. This is just another way Northwestern is looking to bring a lower cost product to customers.

Company Reports \$6 Million Net Profit

Northwestern Steel and Wire Company, reported that net sales for the fiscal year ended July 31, 1986 were \$356,165,000 on shipments of 1,106,760 net tons compared with net sales of \$260,813,000 on shipments of 749,944 net tons in the prior year.

For fiscal 1986, the Company reported net income of \$6,101,000, or \$.81 per share compared with a net loss of \$40,846,000, or \$5.44 loss per share in the prior year. In the year ended July 31, 1986, operating profit before profit sharing, income taxes and extraordinary credit amounted to \$8,537,000 compared with an operating loss of \$40,846,000 in the prior year.

In fiscal 1986, the Company, which was profitable in each quarter of the year, recorded a provision for profit sharing of \$2,436,000 which will be allocated to all of its employees prior to October 31, 1986.

The Company had operating loss carryforwards for financial statement purposes available to benefit future taxable years. The Company was required to provide \$3,050,000 for income taxes and also record an offsetting extraordinary credit of \$3,050,000 or \$.40 per share, from the utilization of a portion of the loss carryforward.

During fiscal 1984 the Company exhausted the remaining available tax loss carrybacks, and as a consequence, it was unable to recognize any tax benefits related to the fiscal 1985 operating loss.

Net sales for the fourth quarter of fiscal 1986 were \$95,217,000 on

shipments of 287,943 net tons compared with net sales of \$74,492,000 on shipments of 217,692 net tons in the fourth quarter of the prior year. The Company reported net income of \$2,089,000, or \$.28 per share for the fourth quarter of fiscal 1986 compared with a net loss of \$10,398,000 or \$1.38 per share in the fourth quarter of the prior year.

In the quarter ended July 31, 1986, the Company provided \$759,000 for profit sharing. Additionally, it was required to provide \$1,044,000 for income taxes and also record an offsetting extraordinary credit of \$1,044,000, or \$.14 per share, from the utilization of a portion of the loss carryforward.

In the comparable prior period, the Company was unable to recognize any tax benefits related to the operating loss since the Company had exhausted the remaining available tax loss carrybacks.

The Company announced that its Board of Directors elected to omit the dividend on its issued and outstanding common shares for its first fiscal quarter ending October 31, 1986. Dividends have been omitted since the third quarter of fiscal 1983.

The Board of Directors also fixed the close of business on October 6, 1986 as the record date for determining the shareholders who are entitled to notice of the Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The meeting is scheduled to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 1986.

R.M. Wilthew, President and Chief Executive Officer, stated that after experiencing four previous years of losses, he was delighted to report this turnaround situation. The 48% product volume increase was a major contribution to the Company's profitability. However, there were other factors that allowed the volume to be produced at a profit such as excellent control of inventories and production scheduling to meet our expanded capacity utilization, continued cost reductions and productivity gains on most production units and some improvements in various product yields.

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24-Inch Mill Smashes Record

Members of the 6:30-2:30 shift became the first crew to ever produce over 1,000 tons of channel on the 24-Inch Mill.

The crew from the 24-Inch Mill rolled 1,006.1 tons of 15 x 33.9 lb. channel to smash the old record of 945.6 tons set in January, 1981.

This was the second channel production record set at the 24-Inch Mill in six months. In May, a 24-hour record of 2,429 tons was established.

Congratulations to all members of the 24-Inch Mill who contributed to this impressive record.

Wire Products Sales Meeting Keeps Salesmen On Right Track

Northwestern's Wire Products Division salesmen exchanged data on their respective territories and were brought up to date on the status of the division at the annual sales meeting held at the Brandywine Lodge recently.

David Oberbillig, Manager of Sales, Wire Products Division, said that the general thrust of the meeting centered around the fact that Northwestern Steel and Wire Company has done extremely well in fiscal 1986 in two areas: First, instead of selling at a loss, Northwestern is now actually making a profit because of lower costs and higher volume. Secondly, Northwestern has achieved an increased market share in the wire products business and is consequently selling more tonnage.

"The Division is excited about the commitment given by the Board of Directors," Oberbillig said. "The \$4 million commitment will increase the efficiency of our production department and will allow us to remain competitive in some areas and allow us to become more competitive in others. The commitment comes from top level management on down."

Items on the agenda for the two-day meeting were as follows:

- Manufacturers' Wire (Ed Matthews)
- Steel Division (Tom Cooney)
- 1987 Ad Program (Larry Schubert, Cummings Advertising; Leona Richards).
- \$4 million commitment plan (Mike Mullen).
- Recent union contracts (Merlyn Bruns).
- In territorial analyses the salesmen explained what they felt were their greatest accomplishments in their territories. The salesmen also explained the outlook for their territories, distribution patterns and targeted accounts.

"The comments were very positive. Many felt that even though we had an action-packed two days, it was very informative," Oberbillig said. "Not only did everyone have a chance to discuss individual territories, but they learned what our Division has accomplished in the last fiscal year and what we expect from not only the entire Division, but each individual territory."

Wire Products Division Territorial Salesmen in attendance were: **Jim Gebhardt, Duane Goetsch, Jack Huber, Larry Hurd, Dan Kindle, Gary**

Maycher, Ed Sanders, Elden Schalk, and Jim Treacy. Inside salesmen in attendance were: **Roger Wait**, Office Manager, **John Asumendi, Mike Dunn, Lonnie Fisher, Al Lopez, Mike Murphy, Dan Over, and Mike Preston.**



Members of Northwestern's Wire Products Sales Staff met recently at the Brandywine Lodge to report on progress in the various territories and to coordinate sales efforts in the division.

Salaried Golf Outing Is Successful

About 60 individuals participated in the Northwestern Steel and Wire Company salaried Golf Outing held August 23 at Lake View Country Club.

Prizes for performance were awarded as follows:

Low Individual Score - **John Smith and Jim Lancaster.**

High Individual Score - **Bob Sprungman.**

Low Partners Score - **Craig Deem and Mike Maddox.**

Average Partners Score - **Don Morgan and Mike Quick and Lee Buntjer and Terry Wike.**

High Average - **Bob Sprungman and Don Nehrkorn.**

Closest to 150-ft. Marker on Hole 6 - **Faith Dunn and Phil Croy.**

Closest to Pin on Hole 9 - **Dick Mead.**

Closest to Pin on Hole 15 - **Bob Martin.**

Longest Putt - **Robert Hoeg (Hole 5) and Bob Clark (Hole 18).**

August Anniversaries

40 Years

Robert Fortney, 8/20/46, Wire Mill Machine Shop.

35 Years

Royal Gonzales, 8/4/51, General Millwrights.

30 Years

Roberto Puentes, 8/22/56, Rock Falls Drawing Room.

25 Years

Donald Finch, 8/7/61, Die Reaming.

Eugene McCarter, 8/7/61, Bundling.

Lauren Hacker, 8/7/61, Billet Caster.

Leonard Livingston, 8/14/61, Plant 2 Welders.

Manuel Ramirez, 8/21/61, Brickmasons.

Ellis Boehm, 8/24/61, 20-24" Shipping and Finishing.

Jerry Bellini, 8/24/61, Wire Mill Inspection.

Louis Coulter, 8/24/61, Bale Tie.

Arnold Myers, 8/27/61, Plant 2 Machine Shop.

20 Years

Dale Nehring, 8/1/66, Rock Falls Electrical.

Donald Eakle, 8/2/66, Scrap Yard Switch Crew.

John Marshall, 8/2/66, Salaried,

Plant 2 Inspection Department.

Clarence Hylton, 8/8/66, Nail Department.

Joe Ludwig, 8/8/66, Plant 2 Machine Shop.

Clifford Powless, 8/8/66, Salaried, Electric Furnaces.

William Storms, 8/8/66, Nail Department.

Roger Port, 8/9/66, Salaried, Wire Mill Drawing Room.

Carl McDonald, 8/10/66, Plant 5 Millwrights.

Gregory Sheffler, 8/12/66, 24-Inch Mill.

Francisco Delgado, Jr., 8/15/66, Billet Yard.

Ruth Geiger, 8/15/66, Salaried, Data Processing.

James Clausen, 8/20/66, Salaried, Rock Falls General.

Cloyd Kendell, Jr., 8/20/66, Plant 2 Millwrights.

Terry Sharp, 8/22/66, Wire Mill Shipping.

Larry Knutsen, 8/29/66, Electro Weld.

Edward Kolinski, 8/29/66, Salaried, Steel Division Salesman.

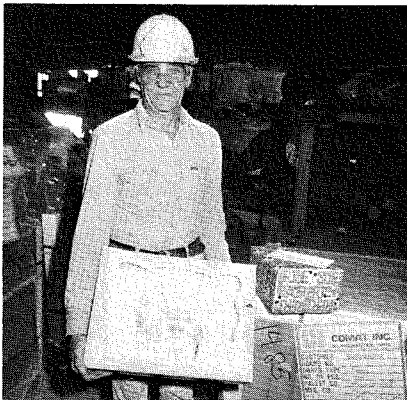
Ellen Conner, 8/29/66, Salaried, Administrative Office.

Herbert Drane, 8/30/66, 20-24" Shipping and Finishing.

In-House Speedometer Calibration Device⁷ Keeps Leased Fleet Rolling To Accuracy



Manuel Miniell, Plant 2 Crane Mechanic, sits before a cake given to him by fellow employees on his retirement. Manuel retired after completing 36 years with Northwestern.



Lev Timbs, Caster Department, holds a cake given him by members of his department on his last day before retirement. Lev retires following 31 years of service at Northwestern.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Steve Harris Voted MVP At Eagles Softball Tourney

Steve Harris, a Truck Scales Dispatcher, helped the Moline Eagles become champions of the Eagles State Softball Tournament held recently in Granite City. Harris was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

The Eagles went undefeated at 5-0, due, in large part, to Harris' hitting streak. Harris hit close to .600, including five runs-batted-in and two home runs, in the Championship game.

There were 17 teams from across the state which competed in the Granite City Tourney.

A speedometer calibrating device designed by NSW Electrical Engineers is just the ticket for quickly checking on and correcting speedometers of the Company's leased fleet.

In the past, when a speedometer was believed to be out of calibration, it had to be shipped off to the manufacturer at a cost of from \$25 to \$50 per reading.

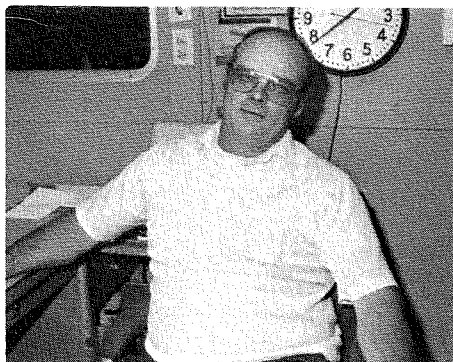
The device now in use at Northwestern Steel means that the Ryder Truck Rental Mechanics can monitor the speedometers of all 43 trucks of Northwestern's leased fleet. Electrical Engineers **Charlie Bosco** and **Andy McConnell** designed the portable calibration unit, which is light-weight and easy to operate.

"There is always a chance that the speedometer can be off," said **Chuck Bennett**, Manager of Leased Fleet. "With our Tripmaster System it is crucial that the speedometer in each of our trucks be accurate."

Tripmaster is an on-board computer system which records each phase of a trip on NSW's over-the-road tractors -including speed, idle time, engine rpm's, etc.

Most speedometers manufactured today for standard use in motor vehicles are required by law to be accurate to within 1%, Bennett said. "The speedometers installed in our vehicles are probably more accurate today than when they were manufac-

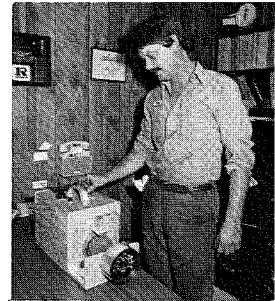
★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Steve Harris was named Most Valuable Player at the Eagles State Softball Tournament held recently at Granite City. Harris batted over .600, including two home runs, in leading the Moline Eagles team to the championship.

tured," he said.

"Our drivers appreciate the knowledge that they are getting accurate readings from the speedometer. If there is a question on the accuracy of a device, we can now know in a matter of a few minutes."



Bill VanHorne, a mechanic for Ryder Truck Rentals, demonstrates the new speedometer calibration device fabricated by NSW's Charlie Bosco and Andy McConnell.

NSW's 'Black & Blues Brothers' On TV

Members of Northwestern Steel and Wire Company's 12-Inch Finishing Department, who dressed up in hats and dark glasses and mailed a poster of themselves to the Chicago Bears, were recently shown on television.

The Northwestern "Black and Blues Brothers" were impressed with a widely publicized poster of the Chicago Bears offensive line and when they produced their own poster, were invited to Chicago for filming.

The NSW contingent was seen Saturday August 24 on Channel 23, a Rockford station. The men appeared in the first few minutes of the program "Chicago Bears 1985 highlights."

The segment in which the Northwestern Steel workers appeared began with a close-up of a Bears "Black & Blues Brothers" poster. The camera then zoomed out, showing the Northwestern "Black & Blues Brothers" holding the poster. The segment was filmed at a construction site in Chicago.

This was the third time the segment has aired on television. The first time ESPN carried the segment and Channel 23 carried the segment earlier last spring.

Caution, School's Open — "Drive Carefully"

This is a reminder for all you drivers out there to take that extra look, because school is open or will open very soon. Many children will be starting school on August 28, 1986 --about 2150 K-6th graders, 650 7th & 8th graders, and 1200 9th - 12th grade high school students.

These children will be assisted by adult school crossing guards at the busier streets and signs indicating so are posted around the schools. Signs which warn of school areas and crossings are extremely important. Small children are often unpredictable in their actions and are difficult to see. So *remember to stay alert!!*.

This sign warns of school buildings or school grounds next to the roadway, or established school crossings ahead.



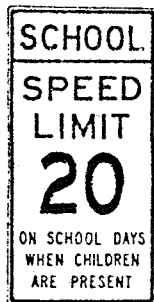
This school crossing sign is erected at the crosswalk and is used where there are school crossing signals.



When you see these signs you should slow down, watch carefully and be prepared to stop if necessary.

Remember - School hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 4 p.m., but schools may hold classes at different hours.

These signs are used in areas where a reduced speed zone for a school has been established. The speed regulation applies only on school days when children are present or a beacon is flashing.



Watch out for children when you drive. Children often act without thinking, so you have to be aware of the dangers such as:

Don't assume a child sees you or

knows your intentions.

Be prepared to stop on short notice when driving near children.

Look ahead for children on or near street corners and the road.

Give pedestrians the right of way -- especially children.

Expect the unexpected, particularly when children are around.

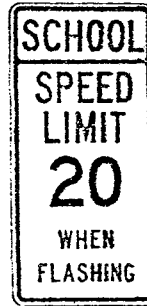
Make sure you use extra caution when you are:

Backing -- you might not see a small child.

Near Intersections where children might be crossing.

Driving near playgrounds or schools where children are playing.

Approaching bicycles because they



might suddenly lose control or swerve in front of you, not realizing you're even there.

Driving near parked cars where children might dash out without looking or stopping to chase their ball or toy.

The last topic I have for you is the sign you may see or have seen along the highways, and that sign is "School Bus Stop Ahead". When you see this sign be prepared to slow down and come to a complete stop. Passing a *stopped* school bus with lights flashing and stop sign out is prohibited in this state. Always be aware of children along the highways waiting for their school bus to pick them up. It's an *adult's* responsibility to drive carefully, especially when children are in your car or on the street. Always remember to *buckle up* your safety belt, because it's not just a good idea, *it's the law* -- and it may save your and your child's life!!

By Gary Budde
NSW Safety Dept.

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Seven Receive Suggestion Awards In July

Seven Northwestern Steel and Wire Company employees received suggestion awards in July.

The top award for the month was given to **Richard Vaughn**, 14-Inch Mill Pipefitter, who received \$200 for a suggestion to use air powered primer pumps on the 14-Inch Mill pond pumps. It was estimated that \$2,000 would be saved by the Company in the first year with the implementation of this suggestion.

Vaughn also was given a \$50 merit award for a suggestion to redesign the 14-Inch Mill scale pit motor bases for easier removal of pumps.

John Buntjer, 12-Inch Mill, was given a \$100 merit award and a \$25 safety award for a suggestion to redesign the cooling water pipes on the 12-Inch Mill loopers.

Ron Leal, 14-Inch Mill Millwright, received a \$100 merit award for his suggestion to change grease buttons from the side to the bottom of the 14-Inch Mill edger bearings.

John Bonnell, Nail Machinist, received \$90 for his suggestion to

machine nail beds at the West Plant Machine Shop on the large milling machine. It is estimated there will be annual savings of \$906.40 in labor costs.

Alvin Slayton, Nail Department, received a \$50 merit award for a suggestion to use a wider grinding wheel on set No. 1 cutters to improve cutter life.

Harold Balk, 24-Inch Mill Pipe Shop, received a \$25 merit award for a suggestion to install oxygen and gas headers east of the 24-Inch Mill reheat furnaces to keep from burning up hoses.

There were four suggestions received from the Wire Division, nine from the Steel Division, and two miscellaneous suggestions making a total of 15 for July. There are 14 suggestions from the Wire Division and 59 suggestions from the Steel Division and one miscellaneous suggestion still open as of August 1.

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